

Message Text

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PAGE 01 JERUSA 00909 300615Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----035253 300616Z /11

O R 291606Z MAR 78
FM AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 637
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L JERUSALEM 909

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PBOR, MARR, UNSC, IS, LE, XF
SUBJ: UNIFIL DEPLOYMENT AS OF MARCH 29

1. UN SOURCE GAVE US FOLLOWING RUNDOWN ON UNIFIL
DEPLOYMENT AS OF NON MARCH 29:

2. WESTERN SECTOR--FRENCH HAVE 40 TROOPS AT MAZRA AT SUKKARAH,
26 TROOPS AT POINT ON TYRE-NAQOURA ROAD NEAR MAZRA AT
TAYYIBAH (SOUTH OF AR RASHIDIYAH), 463 IN TYRE, AND REMAINING
64 IN BEIRUT. UNTSO VERY IMPRESSED WITH SAVVY OF FRENCH COMMANDER,
COL. SALVAN--HE HAS BEEN TOLD TO GET AS CLOSE TO KASMIYA BRIDGE
AS POSSIBLE BUT AVOID GETTING TROOPS SHAT AT. DESPITE
REPORTS OF CONCERNS OF FRENCH AMBASSADOR, UNTSO CONFIDENT COL.
SALVAN WILL TAKE GOOD CARE OF FRENCH TROOPS AND DO GOOD JOB
ALSO.

3. CENTRAL SECTOR--IRANIANS ARE THE PLEASANT SURPRISE OF THE
OPERATION SO FAR. THEY HAVE PLATOON ON AKIYA BRIDGE AND HAVE
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PAGE 02 JERUSA 00909 300615Z

TAKEN POSITIONS ALONG SOUTH OF RIVER TO BOTH EAST AND WEST
OF BRIDGE AND CAUSING NO DIFFICULTIES FOR UNIFIL HEADQUARTERS.

4. EASTERN SECTOR--SWEDES (PRIOR TO MINE INCIDENT KILLING ONE
AND WOUNDING ONE) HAD 40 TROOPS AT KHARDALA BRIDGE, 40 AT
RACHAIYA EL FOUKHAR, 160 AT IBIL ES SAQY. UN SOURCE TELLS US
THAT IDF IS ENCOURAGING UNIFIL TO MOVE SWEDES FURTHER NORTH

TO POSITIONS NEARER HASBAYYA.

5. OTHER ELEMENTS--THERE ARE NOW 19 CANADIANS AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS IN UNIFIL AREA MOSTLY DOING COMMUNICATIONS AND ILMAC HAS 46 PERSONNEL. GRAND TOTAL IS NOW 1,041.

6. AS TO LOGISTICAL SUPPORT, UN SOURCE TELLS US THAT THINKING AT PRESENT IS TO HAVE FRENCH AND NORWEGIANS TAKE OVER LOGISTICS FOR UNIFIL. ON MARCH 30, A MEETING IS PLANNED AT GOVERNMENT HOUSE TO DISCUSS PROBLEM WITH LOGISTICAL TYPES FROM UNEF AND UNDOF.
NEWLIN

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